

CUSTOMER NO.: 24498

Serial No. 10/075,737

RCE - Reply to Final Office Action dated: 10/06/05

Preliminary Amendment dated: 05/24/06

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above identified patent application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for estimating light sources in a common support space with of at least one visual data set respectively previously associated with at least one individual support space and having a position, a dimension and a size in the common support space, said method comprising the steps of:

determining the position of light sources in the common support space in accordance with a position, a dimension and size of an the individual support space associated with said at least one visual data set; and,

determining a color distribution for said light sources in the common support space according to said at least one visual data set.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein comprising, for each of said visual data sets, comprising the steps of:

determining the number N of light sources,
determining the position of the N light sources, and
determining the intensity of each light source.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising the step of:

automatically deriving the number N of light sources from the size of the individual support space associated with the considered visual data set.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said light sources position determining step depends on former positions of said light sources when at least one of said visual data sets is dynamic.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising the step of

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determining a spatial color distribution of at least one of said light sources from a filtering function of said visual data set for said at least one light source in a spatial and/or temporal neighborhood of a position of said at least one light source.

6. (Original) A method for generating mutual photometric effects in a common support space between a plurality of visual data sets respectively associated with individual support spaces, comprising the steps of:

positioning said visual data sets in a common support space

estimating light sources for each of said visual data sets, and

applying estimated light source information derived from said estimated light sources for at least a first of said visual data sets to at least a second of said visual data sets so that said first visual data set illuminates said second visual data set.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6, comprising the steps of:

moving at least one of said light sources out of individual support space associated with said first visual data set; and

applying said estimated light source information derived from said estimated light sources for said first visual data set to said second visual data set.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 6, comprising the steps of:

determining the position of light sources in accordance with a position, a dimension and a size of an individual support space associated with said at least one visual data set, and

determining a color distribution for said light sources according to said at least one visual data set.

9. (Currently Amended) A device for estimating light sources in a common support space comprising at least one visual data set respectively previously associated with at least one individual support space having a position in the common support space, a dimension and a size,

wherein said device determines the position of the light sources in the common support space for each of said visual data sets according to the position,

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the dimension and the size of an individual support space associated with said visual data set and to provide a color distribution in the common support space for said light sources that is determined according to said visual data set.

10. (Original) The device according to claim 9, comprising :

means to determine the number N of light sources for each of said visual data sets,

means to determine the position of the N light sources, and

means to determine the spatial intensity and color distribution of each of said light sources.

11. (Original) A device generating mutual photometric effects in a common support space between a plurality of visual data sets respectively associated with individual support spaces, comprising means for positioning the visual data sets in a common support space, said device comprising:

means for estimating light sources for each of said visual data sets, and

means for applying estimated light source information derived from said estimated light sources for at least a first of the visual data sets to at least a second of said visual data sets so that the first visual data set illuminates the second visual data set.

the device being preferably provided for putting in practice the method according to claim 6.

12. (Original) The device according to claim 11, wherein said means for estimating different light sources emitted by said plurality of data sets are able to determine the position of the light sources for each of said visual data set according to the position, the dimension and the size of the individual support space associated with said visual data set and to determine the color distribution of said light sources according to said visual data set.

13. (Original) An audiovisual terminal comprising:

means for receiving a first visual data set,

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means for requesting the display of at least a second data set cooperating with the first data set,

means for indicating the position of the at least second data set on the display,

means for generating photometric effects, and

means for displaying said visual data sets and modifying them according to the generated photometric effects, wherein said means for generating photometric effects comprise a generating device according to claim 11.

14. (New) The audiovisual terminal of claim 13, wherein said means for generating comprises an estimating device according to claim 9.